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INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION









New kinder officially opens at Yea Primary School

THE Victorian Government has created more than 6500 kinder places this year, including a new kindergarten in Yea.

Member for Northern Victoria Jacyln Symes visited Yea Uniting Kindergarten on Friday, April 4 to officially open the service, one of 65 new or expanded services across the state welcoming children in 2025.

Yea Uniting Kindergarten has capacity for up to 59 kindergarten places for sessional kindergarten. This includes three-year-old and four-year-old kinder (pre-prep).

Yea Uniting Kindergarten is one of 20 new kindergartens that has opened this year on government school sites, saving parents time by eliminating the dreaded double drop-off.

Pre-Prep has also arrived in the local government area of Murrindindi Shire Council, extending four-year-old kindergarten programs to up to 30 hours of play-based learning each week.

Free Kinder continues to save families up to \$2627 in fees per child at sessional kindergartens and up to \$2101 per child at long day care centres.

The state government is investing billions to build and expand hundreds of kindergartens across the state, saving families money and supporting parents and carers to return to work or study if they choose.

Ms Symes said, "Families in Yea and the wider Murrindindi area deserve access to modern early learning facilities close to home. Our focus on education ensures local kinders are ready to meet the needs of growing communities, providing more places and better facilities."



Murrindindi Shire Councillor Sue Carpenter, Yea Primary School Principal Craig Irvine, Uniting staff, Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes, Sacred Heart Primary School Principal Amy Leahy, Mayor Damien Gallagher and Senior Project Officer (VSBA) Grant Newman. -S

EASTER OFFICE HOURS

CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18 AND MONDAY, APRIL 21

EARLY DEADLINES
APPLY FOR APRIL 23
M EDITION

NOON, THURSDAY, APRIL 17

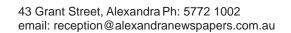
*DISPLAY ADS - BOOKING AND ARTWORK

*CLASSIFIEDS INC DEATH NOTICES *TRADES

10AM MONDAY, APRIL 21
*EDITORIAL, SPORTS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



WE WILL REOPEN 9AM TUESDAY, APRIL 22









Yea & District Memorial Hospital **5736 0400** In an emergency dial

000

Standard

The Hea Chronicle

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Boundary Creek

COUNCIL has not addressed the overland flow flooding issue in boundary creek Boulevard, they are happy to take our rates and not provide proper drainage in our blocks

If we were not home on the day of the 1/200 year flood our house would have flooded, council are choosing to ignore us instead of fix the drainage mess they created by directing water under the road at Lawrence's road into the dam above us and down to our properties in boundary creek.

Name and address supplied but withheld by request



THUMBS UP: I can not believe how much the puzzle page has helped me and I enjoy every bit of it. Kudos to whoever creates it.

THUMBS DOWN: Dog walkers please take your dog droppings with you instead leaving them on my lawn. Thank you.

THUMBS DOWN: To Robyn and the people who didn't name themselves regarding ANZAC Day. Lest we for-

Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down is a reader's contribution section of Alexandra Newspapers. Send your Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down to editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au

Contributions will be edited and/or published at the Editor's discretion. We request that this section not be used as a slander attack on persons, businesses or property

Boundary Creek

COUNCIL has stated that they recognise the concern of the residents regarding the one in 100-year flooding of the Boundary Creek and yes, we are aware that Yea Springs Estate has supposedly been designed within the planning guidelines of the one in 100 year flooding.

Yes, the council has reshaped the old dam wall at the south end of Boundary Creek Boulevard which some residents would be very thankful for. But this certainly does not help us at the north end of Boundary Creek Boulevard. The rising water of Boundary Creek is not the only cause of flooding in the Yea Springs Estate.

Numerous emails have been sent to a number of people in positions in the Murrindindi Shire Council asking for some resolve to our flooding problem with very little or no help, or just getting bounced from one person to another or just no response

What council neglect to acknowledge and continue to ignore, is the fact that the water entering into our backyards of the properties lying between Jordan Way and Boundary Creek Boulevard is not from the Boundary Creek, but is in fact the water that floods down from the catchment area above Lawrances Road and into the vacant property behind the high school and down into our back yards.

We have been told that something would be done by the end of summer, well, summer has

come and gone and nothing has been done or planned to be done.

This is not a one in 100 year event for us here. We have had water around our buildings and our backyard four times recently, the last one in early 2024, and all four events have been the result of water coming from Lawrances Road.

Surely council would have calculated this factor in at the development stage of stage two?

Council have previously stated that, the stages of the estate have been built out of sequence so this overland flooding from Lawrances Road otherwise would have been resolved at stage one.

Well hello, it's still here, the problem wont resolve itself.

Where was the duty of care for the residents between Jordan Way and Boundary Creek Boulevard before and while they were constructing stage two of Yea Springs Estate.

Why are we still asking for some sort of protection or resolve from this overland flooding years after the estate has been signed

We would welcome someone from the council to come and talk to us and give us some positive plans to resolve this flooding problem.

Adrian Vis. Yea

Don't forget to check your smoke alarms

DID you remember to check and change your smoke alarm battery when daylight saving ended? There's still time, and while doing this, it's best to clean them. Vacuum the dust and cobwebs and gently wipe around the unit while making sure they are working correctly.

Fire Rescue Victoria recommends using smoke alarms powered by a 10 year lithium battery for longevity. If you already have one of these there is no need to change the



Alexandra Yea DAY LOW HIGH DAY LOW HIGH Wednesday Wednesday 9 Thursday 11 Thursday 10 Friday 11 27 Friday 11 28 Saturday 13 Saturday 27 Sunday 14 Sunday 14 25 14 13 Monday Monday

Standard

Tuesday

23 23 Tuesday 11

The Hea Chronicle

battery yearly until required. If you hear a chirping noise this can mean the battery is running low and needs to be replaced immediately. It is advised to replace all smoke alarm batteries every 10 years, when doing so consider getting interconnected smoke alarms so when one sounds, they all sound throughout the home.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

can be submitted via email to editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au or reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au or by mail to Alexandra Newspapers PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714

Letters **must be 300 words or less**. We will not publish defamatory letters, or content which is offensive, threatening or containing personal attacks. Submitted letters may be edited before going to print.

All letters must contain writers name, address and contact number. (not necessarily for publication). Letters without these details supplied cannot not be published. Deadline for Letters to the Editor is 9am Monday.



Standard The Pra Chronicle

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT

STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	10.00am Mon	2.19	steady	below minor
Rubicon River at Rubicon	10.00am Mon	0.38	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	9.24am Mon	0.42	steady	below minor
Home Creek at Yarck	4.46am Mon	0.10	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	10.20am Mon	0.39	steady	below minor
Yea River at Yea GV Water PS	9.18am Mon	0.24	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	10.00am Mon	4.08	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	10.00am Mon	0.31	steady	below minor
King Parrot Ck at Kerrisdale	10.15am Mon	0.09	steady	
Goulburn River at Trawool	10.00am Mon	1.85	steady	below minor
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	10.00am Mon	-0.08	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Seymour	10.00am Mon	2.05	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	8.57am Mon	0.79	steady	

**ISSUED AT 10.45AM ON MONDAY, 7 APRIL 2025

DISTRICT RAINFALL

A	Alexandra	. 0.2mm
I	Buxton	. 1.5mm
I	Eildon (AWS)	. 0.2mm
I	Flowerdale	2mm
J	Jamieson	. 0.6mm
ŀ	Kinglake	12mm
I	Lake Eildon	. 0.2mm
ľ	Mansfield	N/Amm
]	Taggerty	0mm
1	Yarck	. 0.6mm
1	Yea	N/Amm
l	Above details for 7 days to 9am Mo	nday

LAKE EILDON	
Height above sea level this week	278.75m
Capacity as at 9am Monday	
Metres below full supply	10.15m
Daily inflow	350ML
Release	5500ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)	93.4%

The Hea Chronicle

Real Estate Thursday 5pm Trades & Services Thursday noon Early General News Thursday 5pm Classifieds Monday noon Editorial Monday 9am Sports Editorial Monday 10am Letters to the Editor Monday 9am Thumbs up/down Monday 10am

If you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact the office on

5772 1002 or

reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au We thank you for your continued support

Rural communities to be hit hardest by new state government levy

A REVAMPED Victorian Government Fire Services Levy it is designed to replace. emergency services levy is set to rip \$140 million from rural communities annually according to a new analysis, prompting urgent calls for the tax to be scaled back.

The new Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund represents a 150 per cent tax hike on some rural landholders, when compared to the

This is despite a complete lack of guarantees regarding how (or where) the new money will be spent.

"This new levy is dreadfully unfair. It's going to smash farm budgets, hurt local businesses and cause job losses in our towns and communities," RCV Chair Cr Rob Amos warned.

"Every extra dollar we send to Spring Street is a dollar that can't be spent in a local business or used to pay an employee."

Aside from the weather, financial stress is already the leading driver of poor farmer mental health.

"Everybody agrees our emergency services need a boost.

"This new levy will hit Victorian farmers the hardest. How does that make any sense after years of drought and amid a cost-ofliving crisis?" Cr Amos said.

"At the very least this new tax burden should be shared equally among all Victorian landholders."

RCV is also concerned by the Victorian Government's refusal to guarantee that money raised by the levy will only be spent on local CFA and SES crews, equipment and infrastructure.

Rural Councils Victoria has written to the Victorian Treasurer, Jaclyn Symes, sharing this new analysis and raising its concerns. We look forward to sitting down with the Treasurer to ensure she's aware of the impact the ESVF will have on Victoria's farmers and rural communities.

Other concerns RCV holds about this new levy include: Rural councils will be required to collect this new annual levy through rates notices and then pass the money onto the state. However, forcing local governments to collect a Victorian Government tax is unfair. The State Revenue Office exists for this exact purpose and should be the vehicle for collection. There's nothing to stop the Victorian Government increasing the levy in the future. This contrasts with local councils, which have been subject to a rate cape of 2.38 per cent (average over 10 years). The rate cap is essentially a cap on council funding for local services and infrastructure. Either way, the new levy should be capped also, or subject only to scheduled increases. The Victorian Government says CFA and SES volunteers will be exempt from the new ESVF levy. But this is only partially true, as the exemption will only apply to one rateable property. Most farmers hold the title for numerous rateable properties and will therefore still be required to pay a significant fee.

"The Emergency Services Volunteer Fund levy isn't scheduled to come into force until July," Cr Amos said.

"There's still time for the Victorian Government to acknowledge the inequities and unforeseen consequences of this new levy and make changes.

A Statement from Murrindindi Shire Council said, "Council recognises the critical role that emergency services play in protecting our communities and the importance of ensuring they are adequately funded. However, we are deeply concerned about the financial impact of the new Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF) on our rural and regional ratepayers, as well as the additional burden placed on councils to collect this levy on behalf of the State Government.

"Council is closely monitoring the issue and engaging with the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), Rural Council's Victoria (RCV) and other councils to advocate for a fairer approach. We will continue to raise the impact on farming and commercial ratepayers in our discussions with the State Government.

Rural Councils Victoria first published this release. Murrindindi Shire Council is represented on the RCV committee.

High tides for the 2024-2025 pool season

MURRINDINDI Shire Council's outdoor pools have made a splash this summer, welcoming the highest-ever number of visitors. Nearly 35,000 visits were recorded across Alexandra, Yea, Eildon and Marysville pools during the 2024-25 season, it was an impressive increase of almost 25 per cent on the previous record set in 2024.

Mayor Damien Gallagher said it was wonderful to see so many locals and visitors making the most of the free entry program and enjoying the facilities

"All of our pools broke attendance records this season. The Alexandra Swimming Pool led the way, becoming the first in the shire to welcome over 10,000 visitors in a single season, more than 2000



Lifeguards at Eildon Pool with all the great equipment donated from Eildon Op Shop for everyone to enjoy. -S

above last year's tally. Across all pools. favourable weather conditions meant there was a record low number of pool closures, with one dedicated Marysville swimmer even clocking up 100 visits."

Mayor Gallagher extended his thanks to the Eildon Op Shop which kindly donated new pool toys for the Eildon Swimming Pool. "With 8646 visits recorded at the Eildon pool and the opening of the brand new Baanh ba Djila Splash Park nearby in the Walter Moore and Thomas Marr Reserves, Eildon has solidified its position as a summer destination with local businesses also commenting on the increased visitation in Eildon."

"My sincere thanks to our lifeguards, who worked tirelessly throughout the season to keep everyone safe. I take my hat off to the team, well done on another successful swimming pool season."

The statistics for the pool attendance across the Murrindindi Shire for the 2024-2025 season were as follows: Alexandra 10,624 patrons, Eildon 8646 patrons, Marysville 8224 patrons, and Yea 6884 patrons. This amounted to a total of 34,778 patrons using Murrindindi Shire Swimming Pools.

As council looks ahead, recruitment for the 2025–26 pool season will begin soon. "Each year, we recruit around 45 lifeguards and support staff, but like many communities across the state, we are feeling the impact of a statewide lifeguard shortage. Lifeguards are essential to ensuring our pools are safe and enjoyable, so if you or someone you know is interested, keep an eye out on council's website or Facebook page for updates," Mayor Gallagher said.



Yea Community House has a new committee of management for 2025. Pictured is Cass, Brett, Amanda, Dale, Eloise, Matilda, and Kerry. -S



ALL HOURS

• Alexandra • Yea • Eildon • Marysville

Offering a caring and professional service throughout the Murrindindi Shire A LOCAL, WHO KNOWS LOCAL NEEDS

> Garnet Bailey 0417 346 214 Chris Walsh 0407 194 037



ANZAC Day 2025

THERE is a call for all men who were called up for National Service between the years of 1951 and 1972. Rergardless of any organisation. If you were called up between the years mentioned, we would like to see you march on ANZAC Day.

If you have your own medals wear them on your left side, you have relation's medals wear them on your right.

We meet on ANZAC Day at 8am outside Young & Jacksons in Flinders Street. We look forward to seeing you there. Any inquiries call Peter Kemp on 0427 859 549.



■ Sunday, April 13, 2025 noon to 2pm ■ 4 Barton Avenue Marysville Vic

OPEN DAY



Over 3 years in the making, designed and built by the creators of Marysville Garden Cottages, is the brand-new SCENIC MARYSVILLE

Thoughtfully appointed 13 suite tourist accommodation, catering for adults seeking a rejuvenating retreat.

scenicmarysville.com.au



THE items in Out and About are sourced from our advertising and news stories. *Out and About is not a free community listing diary*. Not all items can be included and are placed at the discretion of *Alexandra Newspapers*.

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Beyond the Beats, live young, local music artists. A vibrant music event celebrating fresh talent and good vibes. 2-5.30pm at Pixies at the Billabong Eildon. Tickets via QR code in ad in this edition.

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

Don Wilson Photography Exhibition, 34 Retreat Road, Buxton over Saturday and Sunday 10am-4pm. donovanwilson@redbubble.com

******* EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20

Fawcett Hall, sausage sizzle, home made jams, plants, historical displays and much more. 9a-4pm and a carboot sale.

Eildon Bowling Club AGM will be held at 2pm at the club, Sixth Street, Eildon.

COMMUNITY DIARY

Yea District Hospital 5736 0400 Non-emergency police assistance 131 444

EMERGENCY 000

Local Radio Frequency
UGFM 88.9 Yea / Highlands
UGFM 98.9 Flowerdale/Hazeldene
UGFM 94.5 Kinglake Ranges

MONTHLY COMMUNITY GROUPS

1st MonSt Luke's Seniors, St Lukes Hall, Ph Jenny 0407 972 0991st ThuYea Hospital/Rosebank Aux 2pm. Ph 5797 30572nd WedMolesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.4nh WedMolesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.Last FriYea-Kinglake RSL, 11.30am RSL Hall, Ph 5796 9353



For a \$10 annual fee for one line, your club or organisation's regular meeting dates will be listed each week. Not only is this a reminder to your regular members but also a good source of what groups are available in the community, when they meet and a contact phone number.

Church Services

ST PETER'S MEMORIAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

Cnr Bald Spur/Whittlesea Kinglake Rds, Sunday Services, 8.30am Communion. Minister: Rev. Ruwan Palapathwala 0458 113 099

ST LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF YEA

Sunday Service time 11am
Prayerful Reflection - held each Tuesday,
10am to 11am - all welcome
Father Mario Hendricks
Ph: 0435 953 777

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ALEXANDRA AND YEA

Parish Priest, Father Jose Mathew 0459 402 547 St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm Immaculate Conception Parish Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am Sacred Heart Yea, Sunday 10.45am

CATHOLIC PARISH OF KINGLAKE

Fr Martin Ashe, Parish Priest Ph 9717 6482 St Mary's Kinglake: Sunday 8.30am

SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH, YEA
Station Street Yea
Sunday Service 11.15am
Colin Whiteway
Ph 0457 340 525

UNITING CHURCH

1st and 3rd Sundays 9am, 1050 Main Road, Kinglake West. 9716 2330



River's not deep but visitation's high

DESPITE the low water level at the Yea Wetlands, there are still plenty of birds around. Chair Don Knight recently took a walk and saw spoonbills and ibises and a number of other wading birds, "But there's not a lot of water for them to wade around in. The Cummins Lagoon and the frog pond are almost dry."

The low water level is having an impact however, and as soon as the rain arrives, there will be more birds at the wetlands. "We definitely need some rain down there, that's for sure," Don said.

Only about three time in the last 25 years has the water level been so low at the wetlands, most recently a bit over a decade ago.

Strangely, the low water level has had little impact on visitation. "It's certainly increasing which is good," Don said. "But certainly, with

what we've done down there, they're going to see a lot more birds, etcetera, and we've opened up a lot more of the wetlands so it will be an even greater attraction."

Pre-COVID-19, the visitation to the information centre was around 30,000 per year, and with a steady build, they're now back up to 26,000. Don noted that, "Not all of those people go out in the wetlands, but of course a lot of people who bypass the centre and go around to the wetlands around the side or from over the Cummins car park. We're going to put counters down there so we can get a handle on the sort of visitors we've got. There's been no counters in the past, but we need to put them down there now.

"It's been a bit of a secret if you like for a long time. People, and I myself, have driven past there my whole life and we didn't really understand what was down there until we moved here and one of the one of the things we'd like to do is attract a lot more local people. There's certainly a lot of local people who go and walk down there in the morning or afternoon, but we'd like to see a lot more local Yea and Alexandra people down there just to experience what it's like. It's just a real little haven away from the town."

There's a signage program being put together and it's nearly ready to go, so that will help.

Murrindindi Shire Council also recently posted about the new Kayigai Trail at the wetlands, which will be a terrific addition.

Don also commented on how grateful they are for the work put in at the wetlands by Murrindindi Shire Council following the floods.

Communities LEAPing towards resilience

FIVE communities across Murrindindi Shire have successfully completed the LEAPing into Resilience Project, creating Local Emergency Action Plans (LEAPs) to help them withstand the impacts of natural disasters. The communities are Flowerdale, Glenburn, Marysville and Triangle, Toolangi and Castella, and Yea and district.

The LEAPing into Resilience Project is a joint initiative between Murrindindi, Mansfield and Strathbogie Shire Councils, made possible with funding from the Australian Government.

The first round of the LEAP Project was designed to help communities prepare for and recover after emergencies. It provided opportunities for community members to connect with each other and receive training in areas they identified as important, such as what to do in the first 72 hours after an emergency, chainsaw use and maintenance, grant writing skills and psychological first aid. Council would like to thank the community members who participated, and

emergency services volunteers and agencies for their guidance and input into the project.

With the completion of this project, community members who participated from these five communities are now better equipped with skills and knowledge to increase their resilience. Council encourages all community members to practise preparedness, and familiarise themselves with the finalised LEAPs on the website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/leaps

A second round of the LEAP Project is coming in April 2025, as council has been successful in securing extra funding to work with more communities. The new grant funding is from the *Safer Together Program* through the Victorian Government's Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA). This upcoming project will be in partnership with Mansfield Shire Council.

If your community could benefit from being involved in the next LEAP project,

email *leap@murrindindi.vic.gov.au* or call council on 5772 0333.

Murrindindi Shire Council's Community Wellbeing Portfolio Councillor Jodi Adams encouraged more communities to nominate for the project.

"Our residents who were involved in the LEAPing into Resilience project have already taken the jump and are building towards stronger communities with increased resilience. Feedback from those involved has been positive, and I would highly encourage our communities who were not involved the first time to contact council and nominate for the upcoming opportunity."

"Real opportunities for capacity building, such as the chainsaw operation course, help our communities prepare for the future, and the equally important, but harder to measure, connection between our people, provides a key pillar of resilience in the face of adversity," Cr Adams added.

Council responds to hand-delivered concerns

AT the March council meeting, during the public participation section, Garry Angus handed over an envelope to Livia Bonazzi containing concerns.

Council was asked to provide further information on this, including the nature of the allegations and any investigations being undertaken.

Council responded, "At the council meeting on March 26, Mr Garry Angus spoke about the subdivision and civil works at 45-47 Carey Road, Killingworth, and handed an envelope to the CEO during public participation.

"Council treats all correspondence and documents received from community members in a confidential and respectful manner. The content of Mr Angus's verbal comments and the fact that he tabled documents in a public meeting are now part of the public record.

"Mr Angus asked a series of questions that relate to a range of matters, including planning, engineering approvals, and compliance. At this stage, no complaint has been lodged, and no evidence has been presented that would indicate any breach of council process or impropriety.

"Council prides itself on its strong foundations of good governance, integrity and transparency. Our processes are designed to be robust and stand up to scrutiny. As with all questions or suggestions posed by the community, council will review the processes related to this development in accordance with its statutory role and responsibilities. Should any irregularities be identified, council will

take appropriate steps, which may include referral for independent review.

"Members of the public who believe they have evidence of wrongdoing are encouraged to raise concerns through the appropriate formal channels. The *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012 (the Act)* requires council to maintain internal processes that facilitate disclosures, effectively manage the receipt of information and provide protection for all parties who may be involved. To learn more about reporting an act of improper conduct or detrimental action and how we can protect you for providing such information, refer to the Public Interest Disclosures section of the website *murrindindi.vic.gov.au*

"Council remains committed to transparency, procedural fairness, and good governance in all its dealings."



The farmers gathered in the Cattle Pavilion at the Alexandra Showgrounds. -AR

OVERY IT

Kerry Goschnick from Agriculture Victoria with Andrew Embling. -AR

Drought seminar well-attended

AN event titled *Farming in Dry Conditions: Free seminar and breakfast* was held at the Alexandra Showgrounds on the morning of Thursday, April 3.

Andrew Embling explained that the 2022 Flood Recovery Committee still had some funds left over. He had been a part of a drought committee from 2004 to 2009 and was familiar with the challenges being faced. He suggested to the shire that they form a drought committee, and they said that there was some money left over from the floods so it was diverted to addressing drought impacts through a dry conditions seminar.

The funding came through the state and federal governments, with Murrindindi Shire Council and Alexandra Events providing the funds for coffee and food.

Twenty-eight farmers from across Murrindindi attended the event, and both the

Alexandra and Yea hospitals were represented. Anyone who was feeling depressed about the drought was encouraged to call or attend these heath services.

There were also industry representatives at the event, including Zoetis, Olsens and Ridley Barastoc, and the breakfast was made by the Alexandra Show Society. The Little Green Coffee Cart was also there.

The main speaker was Rob Inglis, a nutritionists from Elders in Wagga. Andrew said, "People went away with a lot of knowledge from him." Kerri Goschnick from Agriculture Victoria also spoke about water.

Andrew said, "All in all, it was a great day, and it was a great lead-up coming into the screening of *Just a Farmer* on May 2."

Alexandra Events will be a major part of the screening, along with all of the agencies.



Farmers listening to the speakers during the seminar before enjoying a lovely breakfast. -AR





Best Start
Best Life

Four-Year-Old Kinder is becoming Pre-Prep.

In 2025, Pre-Prep will be available for 16-30 hours per week in Murrindindi Shire. Pre-Prep means more time to develop important social and emotional skills. Learning through play helps children explore, solve problems, communicate and create, while making friends – getting them ready for school and life.

Enrol for 2025. Speak with your preferred kinder service or local council today about how to register for a place or to learn more visit vic.gov.au/pre-prep







SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by Yea & District Community Bank® Branch

Bendigo Bank

YEA PRIMARY SCHOOL



Congratulations to our Values Award winners this week.

Some fabulous campers and students being excellent role models for others. Well done to Nate, Bridie, Sofi, Rory, Sam, Archie, Harper, Xander and Lexi.



Congratulations to Ted,
Zach, Patrick and Josh
on receiving awards for
outstanding actions that
align with our school values
of Respect, Resilience
and Safety.

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by Kinglake branch









Instructors from Footsteps led the dance session. -S



Students enjoying the dance session. -S

Sparking joy at Sacred Heart

ON Thursday, April 3, the students at Sacred Heart took part in a Wellbeing Day centred around the theme of joy.

Joy is a powerful emotion that can uplift our spirits, even in the most challenging times.

Throughout the day, students explored how self-care, quality time with loved ones, connecting with nature, pursuing activities they enjoy, and practicing gratitude can all help foster joy.

Instructors from Footsteps led energetic dance sessions, teaching everyone moves to show off during a fun-filled disco in the afternoon. Staff also embraced their playful side by dressing up as famous singers, sparking their own joy in the process.



The students getting into the groove. -S

Better ratios for nurses and midwives

NEW Legislation to enshrine the Victorian Government's stronger, safer nurse and midwife to patient ratios into law was passed by the Victorian Parliament on Tuesday, April 1.

Following extensive consultation with nurses, midwives, the ANMF, and health services, the new ratios are set in stone: The 'gold standard' 1:1 nurse to occupied bed ratio in ICUs on all shifts for all level

Amendments to the Safe Patient Care (Nurse to Patient and Midwife to Patient Ratios) Act were introduced last month, to put more nurses and midwives on shift, at all hours of the day.

There will be more nurses in Victoria's busiest intensive care units (ICUs), emergency departments, high dependency and coronary care units, and more midwives on maternity wards overnight.

The new ratios deliver on an important election commitment, driven by advocacy from Victorian nurses, midwives and the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF).

nurses, midwives, the ANMF, and health services, the new ratios are set in stone: The 'gold standard' 1:1 nurse to occupied bed ratio in ICUs on all shifts for all level and one two hospitals, meaning that every occupied ICU bed has a dedicated nurse assigned to it at all times. ICUs will also require a team leader and liaison nurse for the very first time improved staffing ratios in resuscitation cubicles in emergency departments on morning shifts, bringing morning shifts in line with afternoon and night shifts. The 1:4 midwife-to-patient ratios in postnatal and antenatal wards on night shifts, down from 1:6 an in-charge nurse on night shifts in standalone High Dependency Units and Coronary Care Units.

These improved ratios come with a \$101.3 million investment to support health services with hiring or rostering additional nurses and midwives.

Free RSV Protection for eligible families

THE long acting immunisation to keep babies safe from Respiratory Synctial Virus (RSV) is now free for families until September 30. It was announced that the RSV immunisation will be free for all newborns if their mother wasn't vaccinated during pregnancy.

RSV is a highly infectious virus that infects up to 90 per cent of children within the first two years of life. The Victorian Government is delivering a free program to protect around 40,000 Victorian babies born this RSV season.

As part of the program, the longacting monoclonal antibody, nirsevimab, is administered in hospital as part of standard post-birth care, helping parents save and avoiding visits to the GP.

Eligible infants aged up to two years who are vulnerable to severe RSV disease

will be protected thanks to a dedicated catch-up program.

The Victorian Government's statebased program complements the Commonwealth maternal vaccine, Abrysvo, which commenced in February as part of the coordinated national effort to protect as many babies as possible.

Mothers are encouraged to get vaccinated during their pregnancy to help build immunity in their baby as early as possible. However, for those unable to be immunised with Abrysvo, or mums immunised less than two weeks before delivery, the Victorianfunded, nirsevimab, will now be available for babies.

In Australia, RSV is the most common cause of hospitalisation in infants because it can often progress to pneumonia or bronchiolitis in very young children.

MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL NEWS



CRMS AND PAYMENTS OFFLINE

Council's customer request management system is being upgraded and will be offline from 5.00 pm Wednesday 30 April until 9.00 am Monday 5 May.

During this time customers will not be able to make online web requests or make online payments. If attending a customer service centre during this time, or calling our team to submit a request, please be patient as they will be working with manual systems and working through a backlog of requests.

FREE GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL IN APRIL

Autumn is the perfect time to tidy up your garden. From 1 - 30 April, you can dispose of your green waste for FREE at Council's Resource Recovery Centres.

This offer includes domestic quantities of garden waste. For more information on green waste disposal and what will be accepted, visit **murrindindi.vic.gov.au/greenwaste** or call us at 5772 0333.

CHANGES TO KINGLAKE AND YEA LIBRARY HOURS

Starting Tuesday 22 April, we are changing the afternoon hours for our Kinglake and Yea Library and Customer Service Centres. This change reflects how our community uses these services and ensures the safety of our staff who work alone at night.

The main changes are:

- Kinglake Library will no longer be open until 6.30 pm on Mondays.
- Yea Library will no longer be open until 6.30 pm on Tuesdays.

The new hours are:

- Monday to Friday: 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
- Saturday: 10.00 am to 12 noon

We will continue to run regular library programs after hours as scheduled. For more information on opening hours and locations, call Council on 5772 0333 or visit our website at **murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraries**



PET REGISTRATION RENEWALS REMINDER

You should have now received your pet registration renewal. Please note, registration for dogs and cats is due by 10 April. If your details have changed or you need to register a new pet, visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/pets

Registering your pet(s) is important for ensuring that they can be easily identified and returned to you in the event they become lost. It is mandatory for all dogs and cats being registered for the first time with Murrindindi Shire Council to be microchipped. This regulation also applies to previously registered dogs and cats that move into Murrindindi Shire from another Shire.

COUNCIL SERVICES OVER EASTER

During the Easter long weekend (18-21 April), there will be some changes to Council services.

Kerbside Collection: This service will continue as usual over the Easter long weekend.

Resource Recovery Centres (RRCs): Our RRCs will be open as usual, except on Good Friday (18 April), when they will be closed. The Alexandra Landfill will be closed to the public on both Good Friday and Easter Monday. For more details, visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/RRC

Library and Customer Service Centres: Our Library and Customer Service Centres in Alexandra, Yea and Kinglake, as well as our Mobile Service, will be closed from Good Friday and will reopen on Tuesday 22 April.

Urgent Matters: For urgent issues like stock on roads, dog attacks, or unsafe road conditions (including fallen trees), please call 5772 0333 at any time.

Non-Urgent Requests: We will be back to assist you from Tuesday 22 April. Online requests can be lodged at murrindindi.vic.qov.au/request

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE YEA STRUCTURE PLAN

Council is inviting the community to participate in shaping the future of Yea through the development of a township structure plan, an initiative that will guide the future use and development of land in Yea and support sustainable growth.

Council has held two in-person consultation opportunities, and you can continue to provide feedback through an online or phone survey until Monday 21 April.

Find out more about the options or provide feedback by visiting **theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/yea-structure-plan** or calling 5772 0333.

DRAFT ANNUAL BUDGET 2025/2026

Council is preparing a draft Annual Budget for the next financial year. The draft Budget is scheduled to be made available to the community for comment during April and May. Stay tuned for more information on how you can provide feedback.

BEYOND THE BEATS IN EILDON

Join us at Pixies at the Billabong, Eildon, on Sunday 13 April from 2.00 - 5.30 pm for a fun-filled, all-ages music event with an epic local young lineup! Tickets include snacks and soft drinks. Transport is available, with buses running from Kinglake and Marysville with stops along the way.

For more information or to buy tickets, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/beyondthebeats

STAY INFORMED

To stay up to date with the latest Council news, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/news or follow us on Facebook.

GET IN TOUCH

customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request 5772 0333

Reserved Seat holder representing Taungurung LaWC



Kaley Nicholson. -S

YEA TOWNSHIP STRUCTURE PLAN Residents encouraged to share feedback and ideas

through a survey



Help us develop a township structure plan to guide Yea's growth and preserve its unique character.

If you weren't able to attend the recent community events for this project, where residents, businesses and local groups had the opportunity to share their ideas, you can now have your say through an online or phone survey.

Visit theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/yea-structure-plan or give us a call on 5772 0333 to get involved and share your feedback.

Feedback closes Monday 21 April.

This project is supported by the State Government through Department of Transport and Planning's Regional Partnerships Program.



TAUNGURUNG Land and Waters Council (TLaWC) is proud to announce that Kaley Nicholson is the new Taungurung Treaty Representative to the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria following an election process that ended on Friday. February 7, replacing Matt Burns.

In her inaugural speech, Kaley said, "As a

In her inaugural speech, Kaley said, "As a proud Taungurung woman with deep family lines throughout Victoria, I am honoured to be elected as the Taungurung Representative on the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria. I want to thank my people for placing their trust in me to represent them at the Treaty table.

"Growing up in rural Victoria, I understand the unique challenges our Mob face in the regions. Deeply entrenched poverty and having to navigate systems that were never designed for us means that access to services and genuine economic opportunities, can often feel out of reach. Treaty must deliver real change for our communities, no matter where they live. It needs to break down barriers, create new opportunities, and ensure that Traditional Owners and all First Peoples across the state are supported to care for

Country, strengthen community, and build a strong future for the next generations.

"I am passionate about ensuring our Elders are respected and elevated in decision-making, that our young people are empowered and have a voice, and that opportunities are created for future generations. Treaty is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reshape our future on our own terms. It is about truth-telling, justice, and ensuring the next generations inherit a legacy of strength, culture, and sovereignty.

"This is not something that can be done alone. It must be done together. I encourage all First Peoples to be part of the conversation, to share your voices, and to help shape this journey. I will always be available to listen, to learn, and to advocate for the needs of our community.

"I look forward to working alongside you all as we negotiate a Treaty that reflects the strength and resilience of our people and ancestors.

"Warrawii-ngat yuwang-ngal-in." (Let's stand together).

Planned burns lead to smoke in towns

WITH calm autumn conditions across much of the state, communities can expect to see smoke in the air as a mix of planned burns, private burns under CFA's permit system and agricultural burns take place over the coming weeks.

While current conditions are ideal for burning, weather patterns may cause smoke to linger over parts of the state overnight and through to early morning on some days.

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) Chief Fire Officer Chris Hardman said it is crucial fire agencies take advantage of favourable conditions when they present.

"Planned burning on public land is one of the tools FFMVic uses to keep Victoria safer from bushfires," Mr Hardman said.

"Our climate is changing and that means finding the right days for safe and effective planned burning is becoming more challenging. Autumn typically provides our crews more opportunities to conduct planned burns, as the weather is more stable, and fire behaviour tends to be manageable and predictable.

"With the current favourable weather and forest conditions, we are delivering as much planned burning as we can.

"Reducing dry vegetation such as grass, leaves, bark, shrubs and small fallen branches means fires are less intense and slower to spread, making it more likely that firefighters can keep bushfires small and contained before they pose a risk to communities.

"We work closely with Country Fire Authority (CFA), Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and Bureau of Meteorology to keep the smoke impact from planned burns as low as possible. We make every effort to make sure favourable weather conditions reduce smoke drift into communities.

"Victorians can register to receive notifications of upcoming planned burns at the Planned Burns Victoria website."

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan is urging Victorians to understand permit requirements before conducting private burn-offs while the Fire Danger Period (FDP) remains in place across most of Victoria.

"We are now starting to issue schedule 13 permits to farmers to burn crop stubble

to kill off weeds and reduce pests, however we remind Victorians, that no burning off is to occur unless people have received permission," Mr Heffernan said.

"While the FDP has ended in East Gippsland, it remains in place across the rest of Victoria. It is vital that landowners check local conditions are safe and appropriate before burning off, both on the day and the days following.

"You may see a large amount of smoke in areas where these activities take place, so we ask farmers to let their neighbours know who may be sensitive to smoke so they can take necessary precaution.

"Any burning off activity should have enough water and resources on hand to monitor and extinguish and Triple Zero Victoria must be notified as awareness for emergency services and community members."

Victoria's Chief Environmental Scientist Professor Mark Patrick Taylor said EPA understands smoke from any source, including planned burns and private burnoffs can cause health concerns.

"Be prepared by watching for FFMVic planned burn notifications and by checking the air quality in your area through EPA's AirWatch," Professor Taylor said.

"Your nose is also an excellent smoke detector. If you can smell smoke, take the necessary precautions to protect your health."

The Planned Burns Victoria website has details of all planned burns currently on the three-year Joint Fuel Management Program, visit *plannedburns.ffm.vic.gov.*

To find out what can and can't be done during fire danger period, visit *cfa.vic*. *gov.au/warningsrestrictions/fire-bans-ratings-and-restrictions/can-i-or-cant-i*

Check fire restrictions and register private burns at *firepermits.vic.gov.au* or call 1800 668 511. Detailed information about current air quality throughout Victoria can be found on EPA's website.

Visit the EPA website for tips about looking after health when there is smoke at epa.vic.gov.au/forcommunity/environmental-information/air-quality/smoke/smoke-your-health or epa.vic.gov.au/for-community/airwatch



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Nutrien and Elders were the auctioneers for the day, with a big number of cattle to get through. -BD

Positive prices at April cattle sale in Yea

by Bailey Dixon

THE April cattle sale at the Yea Saleyards took place last Friday, with a big yarding of 3250 head due to continuing strong interest from northern buyers.

Majority of the cattle were steers and black Angus, with the top price per head being



Farmers enjoying a chat while the cattle are auctioned. -BD

\$2560 and top weight 645 kilograms, making for 411c/kg.

The last three rows of the sale were heifers. Top price was \$1990 and top weight 499.2 kilograms, leading to a strong average of 399c/kg.

On average, the cattle at the sale weighed in at 312 kilograms average and sold for \$1233 per head on average, making 395c/kg the average for the day.

High prices were a good sign for farmers, showing that the industry is still standing strong despite concerns around tariffs and the continuing dry conditions.

Also at the April sale was Dr Anna Manning from Delatite Veterinary Services, who was talking with farmers about zoonotic diseases, or diseases that can spread from cattle to humans, and people from AgBiz Assist were offering rural financial counselling services.

Upcoming cattle sales at the Yea Saleyards include an Elders and Nutrien Store Sale on May 2, and an Alex Scott and Staff Chris Stanley Store Sale on May 9.



There was a large crowd for the most recent Yea sale, with people watching to see how prices would hold given the dry conditions and the flooding in Queensland. -BD

STOCK REPORT 4 APRIL 2025 Elders & Nutrien Heifers **Total Yarding** Steers Store Sale Number of head 3,250 Average \$ per head \$1,233 Average weight per head 312kg Top price per head \$2,560 \$1,990 Top weight 645kg 499.2kg \$4 million Turnover



Dr Anna Manning from Delatite Veterinary Services with Sally from Yea and District Memorial Hospital. Dr Manning was at the cattle sales to discuss zoonotic diseases, particularly those transferable between cattle and humans. -BD

Horticulture, Viticul



Woodworking is just one of the large variety of crafts and elements of off-grid living on display at the festival. -S

Everything off-grid related coming soon to Chiltern

THE Off-Grid Living Festival is happening on April 12 and 13 in Chiltern. The team of organisers, consisting of four passionate individuals, has poured their hearts into creating an event that celebrates sustainable living and the off-grid lifestyle.

They believe in fostering a community where like-minded people come together to embrace a lifestyle that treads lightly on the planet. The festival, curated by incredible Festival Director, Kate Nottingham, is a testament to her visionary approach and commitment to growing this unique event.

There are some 280 exhibitors at this year's festival, ranging from solar consultations to bush survival workshops to woodworking.

Event Coordinator Arabella Watson spoke about the family-friendly nature of the festival.

"We really try to make it family focused. Obviously there is a lot of adult stuff, like solar companies and EVs, but we also have a whole range of things for children," Arabella said.

"There's an animal petting zoo, there's Clydesdale horse rides, there's a kid's tyre playground that they can come and play in. Plus there are workshops specifically for children, with parent supervision. There's even a pickling workshop for all ages.

"We always have music, so there's a stage that runs for the two days with live music to keep all ages happy, and there will be face painting.

Asked about what the organisers want people to walk away from the festival feeling, Arabella responded that she wants people to walk away feeling inspired.

"It is so varied. We often get asked to explain the festival, and we say come along and learn about the latest technology such as battery banks and all that type of stuff, or you could walk away having made your own hand-made pair of socks," Arabella said.

'We want people to walk away feeling inspired and that there is things they can do. And to have a sense of hope and learn some new skills regardless of what skill that is."

New additions to this year's Off-Grid Living Festival in Chiltern include: A film partnership with Environmental Films Australia, featuring special screenings at the historic Star Theatre in Chiltern; cocktail night opening launch at Posh Plonk on Main, showcasing local foods and specialty drinks in an intimate setting; Saturday night long table feast with wild discovered foods, a unique dining experience celebrating wild-foraged flavours.

The large number of attendees at a previous Off-Grid Living Festival listening attentively to presentations. -S

Australian agriculture sector disappointed by tariffs

THE United States recently introduced a 10 per cent tariff on all Australian exports, leaving the agriculture sector disappointed.

The relationship between the Australian and US agricultural industries has been longstanding, with the existence of the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement supporting trade in the form of zero tariffs on two-way trade.

Australia imports \$2.5 billion AUD worth of US food and agricultural products annually, and around \$400 million worth of farm machinery annually.

In return, the US owns and leases about 2 million hectares of Australian agricultural land, being a multi-billion-dollar investor in our agriculture sector.

Various agricultural organisations have expressed their disappointment in the tariffs since the announcement last Thursday.

President of the National Farmer's Federation (NFF) David Jochinke spoke with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese last week, outlining that the sector does not support the introduction of reciprocal tariffs and supports the government in standing firm in defence of Australia's science-based biosecurity framework.

"This decision is a disappointing step backward for our nations and for the global economy," Mr Jochinke said.

"The Australian agricultural industry supports a considered and measured approach to negotiations with the United States and will work closely with the government and all sides of politics to seek a resolution to this issue," Mr Jochinke said.

"The NFF has long championed free and fair trade, not just for agriculture but all industries, recognising its role in global economic growth and stability. Australian agriculture is unwavering in its commitment to this.

"While this decision creates unnecessary uncertainty, we remain confident in the strength of Australian agriculture. Our products are sought after worldwide for their quality, sustainability, and reliability."

The NFF also welcomes the government's \$50 million commitment to help affected sectors diversity markets and will seek clarity on how the funding will be delivered. prices here in Australia," Mr Crowley said.

The Red Meat Advisory Council (RMAC) and its members are disappointed in the United States' decision to impose tariffs on Australian red meat exports destined for the US.

Red Meat Advisory Council (RMAC) Chair, Mr John McKillop, said the decision to impose a 10 per cent tariff on goods imported to the US failed to recognise that Australian red meat contributes to stable food supplies and prices in the United States.

"While Australian meat exports will shortly be subjected to a 10 per cent tariff, there is no ban on Australian red meat and our trade with the US will continue," Mr McKillop said.

"However, it remains a disappointing decision from the US, in stark contrast to our 20-year partnership under the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA).

"Last year, 2024, was a record year for Australian red meat exports, driven by strong global demand. Australian producers can be assured that we operate in a strong global trading environment with high demand for our red meat from over 100 markets.

Mr McKillop said the Australian red meat industry, in partnership with the Australian government, has worked to alleviate economic trade barriers, including tariffs, via the negotiation of free trade agreements (FTAs) over a number of years. As a result, 91 per cent of beef, 74 per cent of sheep meat and 89 per cent of goat meat exports traded globally are covered under existing FTAs, which remain effective.

"The US was Australia's largest red meat export market in 2024, worth A\$6.07B, almost one third of total global exports. The US will continue to be a key market despite these tariffs," Mr McKillop said.

Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) Managing Director, Michael Crowley, said that MLA and the industry had already been working on this issue throughout 2025 with the formation of an industry taskforce and collaboration and communication with the Australian Government.

"US tariffs will impact the prices paid by American families and may have flow on impacts on the supply chain. It is unlikely these changes will make a difference to retail

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Email your photo and contact details to manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au by noon April, 24, 2025

T&C: Professional photographers are ineligible to enter Staff or associated famiy members of Alexandra Newspap are ineligible to enter. Photos must be taken within the Murrindindi Shire.

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SOLUTIONS Page 13

Crossword

ACROSS

- 2. A large seagoing vessel.
- Strike with a heavy, crushing blow.
- 7. Tell an untruth.
- 8. A strong feeling of anger.
- 9. A flippant, sardonic remark.
- 10. The force used to push something.
- 13. Tastelessly cheap and showy.
- 16. Stopped sleeping.
- 17. An act punishable by law. 18. Dwell on with malicious
- 19. A stingless male bee. 22. A small or mediumsized couch.
- 24. Warns of approaching danger.
- 27. An official valuation.
- 28. Gave food to.
- 29. A collection in its entirety.
- 30. The way out.
- 31. Resentment at seeing the success of others.

DOWN

- Show contempt and disregard for.
- Drainage pipe for rainwater and waste.
- Music to be played very fast. Tell someone off angrily
- and at length. 5. A long walk in the country.

- 6. Physically and mentally fatigued.
- 11. A large group.
- 12. A large yellow-fleshed turnip.
- 14. A divine messenger from God.
- 15. Behave in response to a situation.
- 20. Feel sorrow over an action.
- 21. A local inhabitant.

- 25. An car race run over
- 26. Like the taste of sea water.

- 22. Move very slightly.
- 23. An equal exchange.
- public roads.

Flowerdale Primary celebrates Harmony Day



Flowerdale Primary School students riding to school on Harmony Day. -S

Students gathered around the chalk drawings. -S

Word Search

S	В	Р	J	Н	S	Т	Т	S	Т	D	F	Κ	R	L
Р	С	Α	I	Α	Q	Ε	Χ	С	S	Ν	1	R	Α	A
Ι	Н	Μ	R	Μ	J	J	1	F	Ε	D	Ο	Μ	Z	C
Н	Ι	Ν	J	В	٧	Н	Ν	Р	Ν	Q	-1	С	Н	Н
С	С	V	J	U	Е	Ε	Χ	U	Т	Ν	Μ	I	R	J
D	Κ	Н	G	R	U	Q	Μ	U	G	Α	С	R	С	G
Ν	Ε	Υ	Υ	G	D	Α	U	Т	Κ	Κ	Ε	S	Т	١
Α	Ν	R	R	Е	R	R	0	Ε	0	Κ	Ζ	М	С	Т
Н	Р	Α	Α	R	Κ	Ν	U	R	Р	Ζ	G	О	О	A
S	Α	Ν	Α	V	С	L	0	U	Χ	Q	W	J	F	P
I	R	В	U	Е	В	L	F	U	М	Υ	С	Р	Н	C
F	М	В	Р	Χ	L	R	0	J	М	С	Υ	I	Т	H
I	Α	S	Т	1	U	С	S	I	В	С	Α	Ζ	Ν	P
Z	В	Α	Ν	G	Е	R	S	Α	Ν	D	М	Α	S	H
Α	٧	О	L	V	Α	Р	V	Е	G	Е	М	Ι	Т	E

Australian food

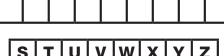
ANZACBISCUITS	FISHANDCHIPS
BANGERSANDMASH	HAMBURGER
BARBEQUE	LAMINGTON
BARRAMUNDI	MEATPIES
CHICKENPARMA	PAVLOVA

CHICKOROLL

Cryptogram

AFL

Α	В	С	D	E	F	G	Н	Ι
				15				



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Q

M

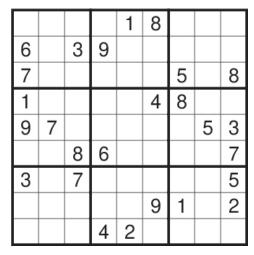
S 11 8 22 14 10 3

<u>21 6 22 21 14 15</u>

Students enjoying some chalk drawing. -S

Sudoku

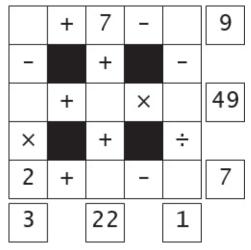
VEGEMITE



Difficulty: Medium

Fill in the boxes using the numbers 1 to 9. Every row and column and every group of 9 boxes inside the thicker lines must contain each number and letter only once.

Math Square



Fill in the missing numbers.

The missing values are the whole numbers between 1 and 9. Each number is only used once. Each row is a math equation. Each column is a math equation.

Remember that multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.



Love hearts for Harmony Day. -S

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Rob Skinner, Council's Municipal Building Surveyor, Jaymie Elward, Council's Building Surveyor, and Natalie Stewart, Manager Development Services. -S

Cadet to Qualified Building Surveyor

MURRINDINDI Shire Council is proud to congratulate Jaymie Elward on successfully completing the Victorian Government's Women Building Surveyors Program, becoming a qualified Building Surveyor and reaching a significant milestone in her career.

Jaymie's journey from cadet to qualified Building Surveyor highlights the supportive and inclusive environment at council and Jaymie's hard work and dedication. The Building Services team has been key in guiding and mentoring Jaymie, helping her gain the skills and experience needed

The Women Building Surveyors Cadetship Program provides councils across Victoria with funding to employ aspiring professionals and give hands-on experience and thorough training in building surveying to support their education. Jaymie's success proves the program's effectiveness and its potential for future cadets.

Jaymie shared her thoughts on this achievement

"Completing my cadetship and becoming a qualified Building Surveyor has been a challenging yet incredibly rewarding journey. I'm thankful for the guidance and support I received from both my colleagues and supervisors throughout the program. This experience has not only equipped me with the essential skills needed for the role but has also inspired me to encourage other women to consider careers in building surveying. The industry is fast-paced and ideal for those who thrive on challenges. You have to embrace being busy, and no matter how long you've been in the role, there's always something new to learn every day."

Council's Building Services team plays a crucial role in promoting good building practices and ensuring that buildings in the Shire are safe and compliant. They offer valuable services to the community, such as conducting building inspections, approving permits, and providing advice on building regulations. Jaymie's new qualification will strengthen the team's capabilities and improve the services offered to residents and businesses.

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CRYPTOGRAM

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TRADES ADVERTISING **DEADLINE NOON** THURSDAY

The Alexandra Standard and The Yea Chronicle are printed by North East Media, Wangaratta.

Print Post Approved - PP 100000292.

PUBLIC NOTICES

EASTER OFFICE CLOSURE Our office will be closed from

Friday, April 18 and will reopen on Tuesday, April 22.

Early classified deadlines for April 23 edition will apply

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE IS NOON, THURSDAY, APRIL 17

This includes death and funeral notices, public notices, meetings, for sale, situation vacant, etc.



Standard

PUBLIC NOTICES

tandarda tillon · marysville The Hea Chronicle

Book your classified ad by 12 noon Monday.



GARAGE SALE

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

33385

DEADLINES: APRIL 14, NOON FOR EDITION OF APRIL

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The Hea Chronicle

18-21

DEATH NOTICES BARKER. Trevor

John. Passed away on 03/04/2025. Dearly loved and loving brother and brother in law to Greg and Jacinta. Loved uncle to Alissia, Kylie and Megan. No more pain and suffering Trev. Fond memories.

JONES, Elsa. 06/09/1945 -27/03/2025

Passed away at Wantirna Heálth. Loving wife of Dudley (dec). Caring mother of Leanne and Kevin Stepmother to Colin and Debra and families. Cherished gran to Thomas and Abbee.

FOR HIRE

FITNESS

FUNERAL NOTICES

JONES, Elsa.

A funeral service celebrating the life of Elsa will be held on Monday, April 14, 2025 at Marysville Community Centre commencing at 12:30pm followed by a burial at Marysville Cemetery.



Peace of Mind A.F.D.A 1800 080 909



MEETINGS



EQUIPMENT Rental and Sales Alexandra Treadmills, X- trainers, exercise bikes, rowers

and *more*. **PH:0407 231 377**

GARAGE SALES

EILDON, U13, 2 Riverside Drive. Easter Saturday, Sunday and Monday from 10am to 4pm. Outdoor setting, wooden table, recliner chair, books, DVD, 10 person dinner set, mirrors, haberdashery and lots more.

General meeting

for the Alexandra RSL will be held on Sunday, April 13, at noon, followed by a light luncheon.

EILDON BOWLING CLUB Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 27 at 2pm at the club, Sixth Street,

PETS & LIVESTOCK

ISA BROWN LAYERS - POL, \$35 each. Phone 5798 1868. Pick-up in Alexandra or Yea. beckysfreerange@gmail.com

GARAGE SALE

GARAGE CLEAR OUT PROPERTY CLEAR OUT

13 Francis Street, Yea

Easter Saturday, April 19, 2025 From 9am - 3pm. Cash only.

John Guttridge MBLF (Molesworth Bazaar Life Member) estate. Old school mechanics workshop where workplace OHS never existed.

Pay what you think or donate to relocation fund or just take it.

Artist scrap (metal and mechanical bits and pieces), old Holden parts, bench grinders, chain lengths (some with couplings), heavy duty cable lengths with swage ends, motors, electrical motors (mostly three phase), some tools, spanners, sockets etc. 10,153 assorted nuts and bolts. Pulleys and pulley blocks.

Advertise your garage sale

with us for the upcoming

long weekends and get a

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Merton Campdraft gears up for its annual campdraft event this weekend

THE Merton Campdraft Club is gearing up for its annual campdraft event this weekend (April 11, 12 and 13). With over 700 entries for nine events, the three-day campdraft is attracting competitors from across Victoria and interstate and is one of three campdraft events in Mansfield Shire, a testament to the popularity of the growing horse sport of campdrafting. Audience entry is free.

Club Secretary Lisa Smith said the weekend will kick off with the Ladies' event, followed by the 'Top Cut Out' feature event on Friday evening, with a further eight events across Saturday and Sunday. The Top Cut Out is a new evening event held under lights, designed to showcase the best horse and rider combinations".

"Thanks to the generous support of Mansfield Shire Council's Outlying Communities Infrastructure Fund, we have received a grant to enhance the quality of our arena surface. This upgrade will not only improve the experience for all competitors but will make it easier for us to prepare our arena for future events," Ms Smith said.

"We'd like to thank Fox Pastoral and Fox Dairies for coming on board as our major cattle donors. We are extremely grateful to Luke Hilton from TRAX Livestock Carriers for donating his weekend to cart

"Events like this just aren't possible without the support from our sponsors.

"Finally, I'd like to thank our hardworking committee members for the hours they've put in to make our upcoming event a success, and to the local volunteers and businesses who support our event."

For more information about the event, follow the Merton Campdraft Club Facebook page for the latest updates.



The Merton Campdraft is happening this weekend. -S



The pennant team from Yea Golf Club. Pictured are Kevin Coghlan, Brian Simmons, John Phillips, Captain Brendan Chenhall, Rick Wills, Tony Rule and Tom White. -S

Barry Moore Trophy played in Yea

by Alan Pell

SATURDAY saw 26 men contest the second round of the Barry Moore trophy at Yea Golf Club. Barry's record at Yea was that he won 18 A Grade and four B Grade Championships in his time as a golfer at Yea between 1953 and 2001.

The second round played on Saturday was won on the day by John Phillips (18) with 39 points from second visitor Simon Rouget (15) on 36 points. Third was Alan Pell(13) on 35, fourth Russ Wealands (23) 34 from fifth also on 34 Brian Priestley (26). Nearest the pin on the second was Phil Taylor from Broadford and Laurie Dobson also from Broadford took out the Club Award.

There were also 10 ladies playing a stableford round on Saturday with Caroline Webber (48) posting 38 points to win from second Cindy Armstrong (26) with 37.

The Barry Moore Trophy was won by Alan Pell with 69 points from Brian Priestley and Andrew Bohn both with 68 points.

Last Wednesday there were 17 men playing a stableford round with Mic Sheather (24) having an excellent round of 40 points to win the day. Second with 37 was Alan Pell (13) with Phil Armstrong (20) third with 36 from fourth Allan Coates (7) also with 35 points. Allan was nearest the pin on the second and Phil Taylor won the Club Award.

Sunday saw the third round of pennant conducted this week at Yea. Yea were able to defeat Whittlesea four to one and now have a two wins/one loss record. Winners on Sunday for Yea were Tom White (4/2), Rick Wills (3/2), Tony Rule (5/4) and John Phillips (19th). Yea boys looking good in their team shirts sponsored by Nutrien Ag Solutions.

Term one pennant is done and dusted

by Kristelle Leary

PENNANT has come to an end and the victors have been crowned. Monday night saw Mocha on top with a commanding lead. Thursday night was a bit closer with Earl Grey finishing in first place. Good work everyone.

Affogato versus Latte

LEE versus Mick: Such a great game to watch. Some long rallies were played, and the match was tight with only one point in it. That one point was a shining beacon for Mick, who took home the victory. 48 to 47.

Jared versus Matt: This was a close battle as the player who could claim the 'T' in the court would gain the ascendancy. Jared is ruing some unforced errors. The fast and improving Matt pinched an unlikely win. 62 to 61.

Derrick versus Andrew: On paper

was able to play a sensible game that kept Derrick running. Derrick lead by a point going into the final game, but Andrew extracted mistakes from his tiring opponent and nabbed the win. 54 to 51.

Espresso versus Mocha

TYLER versus Ethan: Ethan played some superior shots and was able to accumulate more points despite the game score being even. Ethan took home the win. 58 to 49.

James G versus Sally (fill in): Some lovely shots from both players and some good rallies. James's ability to chase the ball down made all the difference and fast tracked his victory. 69 to 41.

Justin versus Michael (fill in): Michael was just too good! Justin had no answer to his opponents flat crosscourt shots. Michael was crowned the victor. 65 to 46.

Jim (fill in) versus Michael H: this should have been a comfortable Great hitting by both players with win for Derrick. Andrew, however, long rallies and great court coverage.

Jim was too strong in the end and had the slight edge through the middle, winning him the match. 54 to 51.

Chai versus Ooloong

RANDY versus Jess: Coming out strong Jess lead the match. Randy had some good shots, but Jess's consistency is what won her the match. 69 to 42.

Sam versus Kristelle: What a close match. Both players made some unforced errors, but neither was willing to admit defeat. Going into the final game Kristelle had a onepoint lead. Sam caught her of guard one too many times, taking the lead and going home triumphant. 63 to 59.

Jim versus Phil (fill in): The points don't show how good of a match this was. Both played well but Jim had some low trick shots that Phil couldn't handle. Jim won the match. 69 to 40.

Earl Grey versus Rooibos

CHRIS versus James S: Chris was in control for most of the match. James snatched himself a win in the third game, but Chris kept ahead to take home a solid win. 72 to 56.

Travis versus Blake: An even contest. Travis got ahead in game two with good depth. Blake found his range in game three to level the score. It all came down to the last game and scores were tied with a minute left on the clock, Travis put a run of points together to finish the game and match on top. 60 to 56.

Daniel W versus Michael M: Always the entertainers, it was a very animated match. Going into the final game the score was tied. Michael ended up sliding on the floor more than once, but Daniel had the goods, taking home the final game and match. 62 to 54.



Jess in action setting up for a forehead off the left wall. -S

ronicle Sport



Sports Editorial: sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au



Billie Ross making sure the ball doesn't get too far. -S

by Jess Kennedy

AN enthusiastic crowd was treated to a thrilling contest between Yea and Wandin's Female Football sides, with Wandin emerging victorious, 5.9.39 to 0.7.7 to win over Yea Women's Football Team in their first

With no sense of occasion, Wandin wasted no time in asserting their dominance, scoring 4.7.31 to 0.2.2 in the first half. The Yea girls worked hard but couldn't break through Wandin's solid defensive setup, leaving them with only two behinds to show for their efforts.

The second half brought great contests around the ground, and despite their lack of

experience, Yea showed moments of promise, halting Wandin's momentum and threatening to break through on the scoreboard.

Best players for Yea included Bella Philpot, whose strong hands and great ball use stood out, Maddy Sawyer was tireless in the midfield, and Sarah Arbuthnot, who was a standout in defence, thwarting many of Wandin's attempts to score.

The momentum of the Women's Program is hard to ignore and the girls expressed their gratitude for the support of the club and community. This match will undoubtedly be remembered as a key moment in the region's women's football history.



Maddy Sawyer took a kick. -S



Jess Kennedy getting into the game. -S